

May 15, 2009

The Honorable Daniel K. Inouye  
Chairman  
Senate Committee on Appropriations  
Capitol, S-128  
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Thad Cochran  
Vice Chairman  
Senate Committee on Appropriations  
Capitol, S-128  
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Tom Harkin  
Chairman  
Subcommittee on Labor, Health and  
Human Services, and Education  
Committee on Appropriations  
United States Senate, SD-131  
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Chairman Inouye, Vice Chairman Cochran and Chairman Harkin:

As the Subcommittee prepares to consider the fiscal year 2010 appropriations bill for the Departments of Labor, Health and Human Services and Education and Related Agencies, I respectfully request your consideration of the following projects, programs, and report language important to New Mexico. We have many needs in our schools, health facilities and Indian country, and federal assistance is critical to address these matters. I know your subcommittee receives many funding requests; any consideration of these projects is very much appreciated. My project requests are listed in alphabetical order.

Projects

**Amigos in the Schools, Santa Fe.** I respectfully request \$250,000 through the Dept. of Education/FIPSE for Semos Unlimited, Inc. This program would provide staff salaries, office supplies and other and administrative costs for developing Hispanic learning materials for approx. 30,000 students, and would provide 3 jobs.

**“At Risk” Youth Support, Española.** I respectfully request \$338,000 through the Department of Education/FIE for the YMCA Española Teen Center. This program would provide instructional and administrative staff and support (such as transportation services) to serve 280 at-risk students for truancy and violence prevention, and provide remedial academic support, and preserve 3+ jobs.

**Biomonitoring Project.** I respectfully request \$1,500,000 through CDC for the Center of Excellence for Hazardous Materials Management. This project would sample the Chihuahuan Raven population for H5N1 virus and West Nile virus, along with environmental toxins (e.g., banned pesticides and heavy metals), as part of a national strategy to detect human or animal outbreaks likely to migrate across the southern U.S. border. Funds would be used for salaries, program expenses and equipment.

**Career Tech and Early College Center, Rio Rancho.** I respectfully request \$188,000 through the Dept. of Education/FIE for the Rio Rancho Public Schools. The Career Tech and Early College Center supports two high schools' student retention programs with post-secondary courses offered by local universities, laying an educational foundation for careers in STEM fields. This program would provide planning staff, curricula development, and instructional materials.

**Crisis Triage Center, Las Cruces.** I respectfully request \$1,500,000 through HRSA for constructing a Crisis Triage Center for Doña Ana County clinically triage the mentally ill and homeless. This 5800 sq. ft. facility would house 12 individuals in crisis for up to 23 hours, and reduce crime.

**Dental Hygiene Training Programs.** I respectfully request \$200,000 from the Department of Education/FIE for the New Mexico Dental Foundation. This program will develop and coordinate Dental Hygiene Training Programs throughout New Mexico taught via Interactive Distance Education at community colleges with workshops to increase Dental Hygienist utilization, especially in underserved areas.

**Equipment and Professional Development, Rio Rancho.** I respectfully request \$942,000 through the Dept of Education/FIE for the Rio Rancho Public Schools. This program would train and provide classroom technology equipment for 21<sup>st</sup> Century Learning for 190 teachers in three public schools in Sandoval County.

**Family Health Commons, Los Lunas.** I respectfully request \$2,000,000 through HRSA for the Village of Los Lunas, Valencia County. The Family Health Commons project would be a new medical facility/FQHC for 12,000 uninsured and underinsured individuals and families to provide comprehensive medical, dental and behavioral health care services.

**Gallup Indian Medical Center Replacement Project, Gallup.** I respectfully request \$2,000,000 from HRSA for McKinley County and the City of Gallup to build a new IHS hospital in McKinley County. The facility would deliver a comprehensive package of medical services to the regional tribal constituency.

**Guadalupe County Hospital, Santa Rosa.** I respectfully request \$975,000 through HRSA to upgrade this hospital facility to NFPA and life/safety code standards in Guadalupe County. This program would provide for radiology and lab equipment and hospital beds, and construction of patient, staff and public rooms in a hospital in a geographic area without another medical facility for more than 300 miles, while creating 23 jobs.

**Mescalero Apache Tribe Health Care, Mescalero.** I respectfully request \$750,000 through HRSA for the Mescalero Apache Tribe to purchase equipment to provide and improve radiology, dental and medical care at the Mescalero Service Unit of the IHS facility, which is greatly underserved.

**Montessori Magnet Program, Rio Rancho.** I respectfully request \$91,000 through the Dept. of Education/FIE for the Rio Rancho Public Schools to open a Montessori Magnet Program for students age 3-8. This early

childhood program requires one-time funding for acquiring materials for libraries and instruction, and training and certification for 5-7 teachers.

**New Mexico Indian Affairs Department.** I respectfully request \$1,553,000 from HRSA for the New Mexico Indian Affairs Department to purchase Digital Medical Equipment, including teleradiology and systems equipment for the Taos Pueblo, Alamo Navajo Chapter, Pine Hill Navajo Chapter, and Northern Navajo Medical Center in Shiprock, NM, improving the timeliness and efficiency of health care.

**Northern New Mexico Math and Science Teacher Corps.** I respectfully request \$400,000 through Department of Education/FISPE for the Los Alamos National Laboratory Foundation. This program would provide one-time funding to establish the Teacher Corps programs, recruit 20 recent math/science college graduates and provide training for alternative teacher licensure while they work in 18 school districts. These school districts are expected to hire these college graduates once they are licensed.

**Pediatric Magnetoencephalograph, Albuquerque.** I respectfully request \$2,000,000 through HRSA for the Mind Research Network. Funding would be used for equipment to develop a 2<sup>nd</sup> generation diagnostic tool to assess developmental brain function with pediatric neuroimaging for medical conditions (such as autism, epilepsy and FAS). This tool would greatly improve diagnostic capability for young children.

**Pine Hill Health Center, Pine Hill.** I respectfully request \$200,000 from HRSA for the Ramah Navajo School Board to repair and upgrade the HVAC and wiring system of the Pine Hill Health Center. The center was built in 1978 and is due for basic renovation of these systems.

**Pine Hill School Renovation, Pine Hill.** I respectfully request \$2,000,000 from the Department of Education/FIE for the Ramah Navajo School Board to repair and renovate 14 BIE buildings and facilities to meet code and improve efficiency.

**Pojoaque Valley H.S. Natural Helpers Program, Santa Fe.** I respectfully request \$506,000 through SAMHSA for Valley High School in Santa Fe for suicide prevention. Funding would be used for staffing, training, supplies, equipment and evaluation for 50 student peers, strengthening student development and leadership, improving mental health, and increasing student connectedness.

**Presbyterian Medical Services, Santa Fe.** I respectfully request \$975,000 through HRSA for Electronic Health and Dental Records multi-site system at Presbyterian Medical Services. This program would provide statewide staffing, software, and equipment to provide health information services in 14 counties in the state.

**Public Inebriate Response, Farmington.** I respectfully request \$275,000 through SAMHSA for training, staffing and treatment, as a one-time request for the City of Farmington. This pilot project would create a unified crisis response and recovery program within their CDBG service area, primarily for Native Americans to reduce addiction, mental health problems and lawlessness for approximately 250 persons/year, and retain one and create 2.5 new jobs.

**Public Library Renovation, Red River.** I respectfully request \$2,000,000 through IMLS for the Town of Red River. Their library refurbishment and construction of a new Visitors Center would upgrade and expand their displays and public meeting space.

**Pueblo of Ohkay Owingeh Head Start Program.** I respectfully request \$100,000 from Dept. of Education/FIE for the Pueblo of Ohkay Owingeh. This funding would provide for school improvements to allow internet access, improved plumbing and a new school bus to reach more children. The project would create 4 jobs and allow 18 more to continue, and help a new generation of students prepare for elementary school.

**Pueblo of Ohkay Owingeh Library.** I respectfully request \$890,000 from IMLS to repair and renovate the Ohkay Owingeh Pueblo's community library roof and second floor, in order to add educational space for the schools, head start, after-school learning programs, adult education, language immersion, and computer learning lab for its 20,000+ patrons.

**Pueblo of Pojoaque Behavior Health Facility.** I respectfully request \$805,000 from HRSA for the Pueblo of Pojoaque to design and construct a behavioral health facility used to provide behavioral health and counseling services to the tribe.

**Pueblo of Pojoaque Early Childhood Development Center.** I respectfully request \$863,000 from Department of Education/FIE for the expansion of the Early Childhood Development Center for the Pueblo of Pojoaque from HRSA for constructing this facility, where services for children 0-5 years are provided.

**Ramah Navajo School Board Project.** I respectfully request \$490,000 from the Department of Education/FIE for the Ramah Navajo School Board for funds to enhance cultural classroom teacher program and expand the mentoring and counseling staff. This would improve service quality, and provide 8 jobs.

**Ramah Navajo School Board - Early Childhood Education Center.** I respectfully request \$2,000,000 from the Department of Education/FIE to construct an Early Childhood Education Center to house BIA's Family and Child Education, the Ramah Navajo Head Start Program, Early Intervention, and a Child Care Center.

**Ramah Navajo School Board Property.** I respectfully request \$140,000 from Department of Education/FIE for the relocation of modular buildings that house the property, supply, receiving, and archives for the Ramah Navajo School Board.

**Save the Children's New Mexico Rural Literacy Program.** I respectfully request \$500,000 from Department of Education/FIE for Save the Children for educational advisors, nutrition specialist, curriculum materials, and other educational support services at 13 schools in 5 counties in Northern and Western New Mexico.

**Sierra Vista Hospital, Truth or Consequences.** I respectfully request \$2,000,000 through HRSA for Sierra County. This is new construction for a critical care hospital that replaces a 50-year old facility, and would create 20-30 jobs.

**Southwest Diabetes and Heart Disease Prevention Research Center, Albuquerque.** I respectfully request \$700,000 through HRSA for the University of New Mexico's Health Sciences Center. This program, once operational, would provide staffing and equipment and administrative services to launch a diabetes prevention center. The \$700,000 would fund a proposal to initiate the program.

**Stanford Health Clinic, Albuquerque.** I respectfully request \$2,000,000 through HRSA for a medical clinic and community public health facility in Bernalillo County. This project would offer WIC, infectious disease

management, immunization, addiction and harm reduction programs and services, and its construction and subsequent programs and services would provide 68 construction and then 148 new jobs.

**Sustainable Technologies Center, Santa Fe Community College.** I respectfully request \$6,250,000 through the Department of Education/FIE for the Santa Fe Community College. This Center needs curricula, lab equipment (6 labs, 18 students/lab) and equipment for a renewable energy demonstration park to prepare students for the green workforce.

**Taos County Public Health Department Building.** I respectfully request \$450,000 from HRSA for the Taos County Public Health Department to upgrade and improve space for lab, storage, administration and other public health functions to improve the services to the public.

**Technology Enhancement at ENMU, Portales.** I respectfully request \$400,000 through the Department of Education/FIPSE, for one-time, non-recurring funding for Phase Two of its technology enhancement at Eastern New Mexico University. This funding would upgrade student labs and campus computers (software, hardware, peripherals and security) for students and faculty, with back-up power generator and servers for security protection, providing one job. These improvements would enhance student learning and preparation for future employment.

**Telecommunications/Distance Education Center, Taos.** I respectfully request \$1,500,000 from the Department of Education/FIE for computers, infrastructure and broadband for UNM-Taos to extend distance learning.

**UNM Health Sciences Center, Albuquerque.** I respectfully request \$2,000,000 through HRSA for the third and final construction phase of the state's only medical school's Health Sciences Center. This funding would allow the construction of labs, classrooms, and expand telemedicine training. These new facilities would help maintain program accreditation to train future medical, nursing, and pharmacy professionals.

**Valencia County Health Care Facility, Los Lunas.** I respectfully request \$2,000,000 through HRSA for the Valencia County new health care facility. This program would provide for the planning, design and construction of a much-needed 28-bed, 50,000 sq. ft. hospital that would have 72 staff and more than 3000 patient visits/year.

**Volunteer Expansion Program, Santa Fe.** I respectfully request \$200,000 through the Administration on Aging for the Coming Home Connection. This program trains, places and coordinates volunteers to provide free in-home care for those vulnerable populations at end-of-life and on long-term disability. With added funding, this program could double its services to 120 trained volunteers, and further expand into high school and college to train and place students with these skills.

**Zuni Tribe CT Scan Request.** I respectfully request \$900,000 from HRSA for the Zuni Tribe CT Scan and facility renovation to house the scanner. The Zuni Comprehensive Community Health Center serves a population of 11,000+, and currently transports patients daily to other facilities for scans.

In addition to the above projects requests, I respectfully request consideration of the following projects:

1. Dept. of HHS/CDC – Division of Adolescent and School Health, coordinated school health, nutrition/physical activity/obesity programs, BARDA (Biomedical Advanced Research and Development Authority), labs, global health, preparedness, Surgeon General; Division of Oral Health (an additional \$4.5M, for \$17,544,000).

#### Report Language

#### **Proposed FY 2010 Report Language:**

1. ACF Native American Programs Language Immersion and Restoration. *Report Language:* The committee recommends \$54,000,000 for Native American programs. The Native American programs assist tribal and village governments, Native American institutions and organizations to support and develop stable, diversified local economies. In promoting social and economic self-sufficiency, this program provides financial assistance through direct grants for individual projects, training and technical assistance, and research and demonstration programs. The Committee intends that \$10,000,000 of this amount be available to fund the activities authorized under section 803C(b)(7)(A)-(C) of the Native American Programs Act (as added by the Esther Martinez Native American Languages Preservation Act of 2006).
2. Nuclear Medicine Funding. *Report Language:* A recent report the National Academy of Sciences, *Advancing Nuclear Medicine through Innovation*, recommended the enhancement of the federal commitment to nuclear medicine research. The Committee is concerned that the Department may be looking to move this research in other directions and emphasizes its commitment to nuclear medicine medical application research at the Department of Energy. To that end, of the funds provided, \$30,000,000 is for nuclear medicine medical application research under Nuclear Physics. All of the added funds must be awarded competitively in one or more solicitation that includes all sources – universities, the private sector, and government laboratories – on an equal basis.

I certify that neither I nor my immediate family has a pecuniary interest in any of the congressionally directed spending items that I have requested, consistent with the requirements of paragraph 9 of Rule XLIV of the Standing Rules of the Senate for the FY 2009 Departments of Labor, Health and Human Services and Education and Related Agencies Appropriations bill. I further certify that I have posted a description of the items requested on my official website, along with the accompanying justification.

I am grateful for subcommittee's consideration of these requests, and hope you will consider the needs of my constituents in this year's Labor, HHS, Education and Related Agencies Appropriations bill.

Sincerely,

Tom Udall  
United States Senator

TU/fg

